## **Introduced by Assembly Member Steinberg**

February 24, 2000

An act to amend Sections 92, 98.1, 98.2, 98.7, 203.1, 218.5, 226, 226.3, 240, 350, 351, 1174, 1174.5, 1194.2, and 1197.1 of, and to add Sections 100.6, 100.7, 218.6, 226.7, and 245 to, the Labor Code, relating to employment.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2509, as introduced, Steinberg. Employment: remedies for employment law violations.

Existing law authorizes the Labor Commissioner, his or her deputies, and agents to issue subpoenas for the purpose of carrying out the laws which the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement is responsible for enforcing.

This bill would authorize using a prescribed notice in lieu of a subpoena in adjudicatory proceedings before the Labor Commissioner to compel attendance of a party, person for whose benefit the proceeding is prosecuted or defended, or any officer, director, or managing agent thereof. The notice would have the same force and effect as a subpoena.

Existing law authorizes the Labor Commissioner to conduct administrative hearings and issue orders, decisions, and awards for recovery of wages, penalties, and other demands for compensation properly before the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement or the commissioner. Existing law requires these awards for unpaid wages to accrue interest at

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a specified adjusted annual rate determined under the tax laws.

This bill would instead require this rate to be the same as the legal rate of interest payable upon a contract obligation in default where the contract does not otherwise specify the rate of interest.

Existing law provides that any order, decision, or award made by the Labor Commissioner in these administrative proceedings may be appealed by filing an action in the municipal or superior court. If the appealing party is unsuccessful, existing law requires the court to award costs and attorney's fees to the other parties.

This bill would exempt those appeal proceedings from provisions respecting submission of certain matters in specified municipal and superior courts to mandatory arbitration. The bill would require employers filing such an appeal to post a prescribed undertaking and would provide for disposition thereof. The bill would require an award of costs and attorney's fees against an unsuccessful appellant regardless of whether the successful party is represented by his or her own attorney or by the Labor Commissioner.

Under existing law, any person may file a complaint for unlawful discharge or unlawful discrimination with the Labor Commissioner, who is empowered to provide prescribed relief if the complaint is found meritorious. Existing law requires that, if the Labor Commissioner dismisses such a complaint, the Labor Commissioner is required to notify the complainant of the right to bring a court action or to file a complaint against the state program with the United States Department of Labor.

This bill would specify that if a timely complaint is filed against the state program with the United States Department of Labor, the Labor Commissioner's decision dismissing the complaint is vacated pending issuance of findings by the United States Department of Labor. The bill would require the Labor Commissioner, within 15 days of receiving those findings, either to notify the parties of the reopening of the investigation or to issue a new determination of the complaint. The bill would also expressly provide that an employee may file a civil judicial action without exhausting any

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administrative remedy under the jurisdiction of the Labor Commissioner, and may in such a civil action seek any relief that would be available from the Labor Commissioner. The bill would make the limitation period for filing a complaint with the Labor Commissioner inapplicable to such a civil action.

The bill would make defined substantial shareholders and parents subject to liability for wages unpaid and owed by a corporation, as specified. The bill would make successors to an employer liable for unpaid wages owed by the employer under specified circumstances.

Under existing law, an employer in the building and construction industry is liable for a penalty of up to 30 days' wages and fringe benefits to any employee paid by a check, draft, or voucher that is drawn on a nonexistent account or that is dishonored for insufficient funds if the instrument is presented for payment within 30 days of receipt. This penalty does not apply if the employer can establish that the violation was unintentional.

This bill would make this penalty applicable to all employers and would make related conforming and technical, nonsubstantive changes.

Under existing law, the prevailing party, with certain exceptions, is entitled to an award of attorney's fees in an action brought for nonpayment of wages, fringe benefits, or health and welfare or pension fund contributions.

This bill would add an express exception for employee actions to recover underpayment of the minimum wage or overtime wages, in which a prevailing employee but not the employer is expressly authorized to recover attorney's fees. The bill would also require the court, in an action to recover unpaid wages, to award interest, as specified.

Under existing law, employers are required to provide employees semimonthly, with payment of wages, an itemized statement listing gross wages, total hours worked employees paid by the hour, specified deductions, net wages, information. certain other Violation requirements is a misdemeanor. Under existing law, employee suffering injury as a result of the employer's knowing intentional failure to comply

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requirement is entitled to recover the greater of actual damages or \$100, plus costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

This bill would provide that total hours need not be disclosed for salaried employees exempt from payment of compensation. The bill would impose state-mandated local program by requiring disclosure of the number of piece-rate units and the applicable piece rate for employees paid on that basis and by requiring disclosure of all applicable hourly rates and the number of hours worked by the employee at each rate. The bill would revise the liability of employers for knowing or intentional noncompliance with this disclosure requirement to entitle an aggrieved employee to recover the greater of actual damages or penal damages of \$100 for each pay period in which the violation occurs up to \$10,000, plus costs and reasonable attorney's fees. The bill would authorize an aggrieved employee to seek recovery in administrative proceedings before the Labor Commissioner or in a civil action.

Existing law makes employers liable for prescribed civil penalties, based upon the number of employees and number of citations, for failure to provide employee wage deduction statements or keep certain employee pay records.

This bill would specify that if the employer fails to maintain records identifying the affected employees, these penalties are to be computed in accordance with a prescribed formula. The bill would make a technical, clarifying change in related provisions that specify employer record-keeping requirements.

Existing law authorizes the Industrial Welfare Commission to adopt orders respecting wages, hours, and working conditions.

This bill would make any employer that requires any employee to work during a meal or rest period mandated by an order of the commission subject to a civil penalty of \$50 per violation and liable to the employee for twice the employee's average hourly or piecework pay. An aggrieved employee could bring an administrative action before the Labor Commissioner or could commence a civil action for recovery of these amounts, and if the employee prevails in such a civil

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action, the employee would be entitled to recover attorney's fees.

Existing law authorizes the Labor Commissioner to require an employer to deposit a bond if the employer is convicted of violating specified provisions respecting paying employees or if a judgment for unpaid wages against the employer remains unsatisfied for 10 days after expiration of the appeal period with no appeal on file. The bond is conditioned on the employer paying employees for up to 6 months in compliance with specified laws and payment of any judgment for unpaid wages.

This bill would revise these provisions to make the authorization for a bond requirement applicable to unpaid judgments for interest, penalties, or other demands for compensation within the jurisdiction of the Labor Commissioner, in addition to judgments for unpaid wages. The bond would also be conditioned on payment of such an unsatisfied judgment. The bill would make conforming related changes.

Under existing law, the Labor Commissioner is empowered to implement administrative proceedings for the recovery of unpaid wages and penalties.

This bill would provide that whenever the Labor Commissioner makes an award based upon a finding that the employer has engaged in a pattern or practice of violating wage and hour laws, the Labor Commissioner may require the employer to post a prescribed notice of the violation with specified information for not less than 60 days. The bill would specify a civil penalty for violation of the posting requirement.

Existing law prohibits employers from receiving or deducting gratuities intended for employees from wages otherwise payable. Violation is a misdemeanor. Under existing law, this prohibition is not applicable to an employee that has a guaranteed wage or salary that is at least the higher of the federal or state minimum wage.

This bill would delete the above exemption, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. As so revised, the bill would make these provisions applicable to amounts paid by patrons directly to a dancer subject to specified orders of the commission. The bill would also impose a state-mandated

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local program by requiring employers to remit to their employees gratuities paid by credit card, without deduction for credit card fees, not later than the next regular payday following the date the credit card payment is authorized by the patron.

Existing law requires employers to keep specified payroll records.

This bill would require these payroll records to identify the number of piece-rate units earned by employees and any applicable piece rate paid to employees.

Existing law requires employers to keep records showing the names and addresses of employees and the ages of minor employees and makes an employer's willful failure to maintain these records or payroll records subject to a civil penalty of \$500.

This bill would revise the amount of the civil penalty to \$100 per employee for each payroll period up to a maximum of 3 years. The bill would also make these civil penalties applicable to an employer that fails to keep records required by wage orders of the commission.

Under existing law, aggrieved employee, or the an Department of Industrial Relations or its Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, with or without the employee's consent, may bring a civil action to recover unpaid minimum overtime compensation, wages interest, costs. reasonable attorney's fees. In these civil actions to recover minimum wages, the employee is entitled additional damages equal to the unpaid wages and interest thereon, except that if the employer can show that the act or omission giving rise to the violation was in good faith and that the employer had reasonable grounds for believing there was no violation, the court may refuse to award those damages.

This bill would make technical, clarifying changes in these provisions and also make them applicable to proceedings before the Labor Commissioner.

Under existing law, any employer or person who pays or causes to be paid less than the minimum wage prescribed by order of the commission is subject to prescribed civil penalties assessed and collected by the Labor Commissioner in proceedings initiated by the issuance of a citation.

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This bill would include in these proceedings restitution of the underpaid wages, interest, and statutory liquidated damages.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 92 of the Labor Code is amended 2 to read:

3 92. (a) The Labor Commissioner, and his or her deputies and agents, may issue subpenas subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and parties and the production of books, papers and records; administer take examine witnesses under oath: oaths: verification, acknowledgment, or proof of written 9 instruments; and take depositions and affidavits for the 10 purpose of carrying out the provisions of this code and all 11 laws which that the division is to enforce.

(b) In any adjudicatory hearing before the Labor 12 13 Commissioner, a notice in lieu of a subpoena may be used 14 to compel the attendance of a party, a person for whose 15 benefit the proceeding is prosecuted or defended, or any 16 officer, director, or managing agent of a party or such a person. The service of a subpoena in these cases is not 18 required if written notice requesting the witness to 19 attend, with the time and place of the hearing, is served 20 upon the party or person, or his or her attorney of record. 21 The notice shall be served at least 10 days before the time 22 requested for attendance unless the hearing officer 23 prescribes a shorter time. The giving of the notice shall 24 have the same effect as service of a subpoena on the 25 witness. Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall 26 be applicable to service of these notices.

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(c) The notice specified in subdivision (b) may include a request that the party or person bring with him or her books, papers, records, documents, or other things. 4 The notice shall state the exact materials or things to be 5 produced and that the party or person has them in his or 6 her possession or under his or her control.

- (d) A party or person required to attend or produce records at a hearing pursuant to notice under subdivision 9 (b) may object to the notice as provided in Section 10 11450.30 of the Government Code.
- (e) Notice under subdivision (b) has the same force 12 and effect as a subpoena issued by the Labor 13 Commissioner pursuant to subdivision (a) and may be 14 enforced, and willful disobedience punished, accordance with Section 93. 15
- SEC. 2. Section 98.1 of the Labor Code is amended to 17 read:
- days after the hearing is 98.1. (a) Within 15 19 concluded, the Labor Commissioner shall file in the office 20 of the division a copy of the order, decision, or award. The 21 order, decision, or award shall include a summary of the 22 hearing and the reasons for the decision. Upon filing of 23 the order, decision, or award, the Labor Commissioner 24 shall serve a copy of the decision personally or by 25 first-class mail on the parties. The notice shall also advise 26 the parties of their right to appeal the decision or award and further advise the parties that failure to do so within 28 the period prescribed by this chapter shall result in the decision or award becoming final and enforceable as a 30 judgment by the appropriate municipal or superior court, 31 in accordance with the appropriate rules of jurisdiction.
  - (b) For the purpose of this section, an award shall include any sums found owing, damages proved, and any penalties awarded pursuant to this code.
- (c) All awards granted pursuant to a hearing under 36 this chapter shall accrue interest on all due and unpaid wages at the adjusted annual same rate established 38 <del>pursuant to as prescribed by subdivision (b) of Section</del> 39 19269 3289 of the Revenue and Taxation Civil Code. The 40 interest shall run accrue until the wages are paid from the

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date that the wages were due and payable as provided in Part 1 (commencing with Section 200) of Division 2.

SEC. 3. Section 98.2 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

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- 98.2. (a) Within 10 days after service of notice of an order, decision, or award the parties may seek review by filing an appeal to the municipal or superior court, in accordance with the appropriate rules of jurisdiction, where the appeal shall be heard de novo. A copy of the request shall be served upon the 10 Commissioner by the appellant. For purposes computing the 10-day period after service, Section 1013 12 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be applicable. The 14 appeal proceedings in the municipal or superior court shall be exempt from Section 1141.11 of the Code of Civil 16 Procedure.
- (b) Whenever an employer files an appeal pursuant to 18 this section, the employer shall post an undertaking with the reviewing court in the amount of the order, decision, or award. The undertaking shall consist of an appeal bond issued by a licensed surety or a cash deposit with the court in the amount of the order, decision, or award. The employer shall provide written notification to the other 24 parties and the Labor Commissioner of the posting of the 25 undertaking. The undertaking shall be on the condition 26 that, if any judgment is entered in favor of the employee, the employer shall pay the amount owed pursuant to the judgment, and if the appeal is withdrawn or dismissed 29 without entry of judgment, the employer shall pay the 30 amount owed pursuant to the order, decision, or award of the Labor Commissioner unless the parties have executed a settlement agreement for payment of some other amount, in which case the employer shall pay the amount 34 that the employer is obligated to pay under the terms of 35 the settlement agreement. If the employer fails to pay the 36 amount owed within 10 days of entry of the judgment, dismissal, or withdrawal of the appeal, or the execution of a settlement agreement, a portion of the undertaking 38 equal to the amount owed, or the entire undertaking if

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1 the amount owed exceeds the undertaking, shall be forfeited to the employee.

(c) If the party seeking review by filing an appeal to 4 the municipal or superior court is unsuccessful in the appeal, the court shall determine the costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the other parties to the appeal, regardless of whether the successful party is represented by his or her attorney or by the Labor Commissioner pursuant to Section 98.4, and shall assess 10 that amount as a cost upon the party filing the appeal.

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(d) If no notice of appeal of the order, decision, or 13 award is filed within the period set forth in subdivision 14 (a), the order, decision, or award shall, in the absence of fraud, be deemed the final order.

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(e) The Labor Commissioner shall file, within 10 days 18 of the order becoming final pursuant to subdivision (e) 19 (d), a certified copy of the final order with the clerk of the 20 municipal or superior court, in accordance with the appropriate rules of jurisdiction, of the appropriate 22 county unless a settlement has been reached by the 23 parties and approved by the Labor Commissioner. 24 Judgment shall be entered immediately by the court 25 clerk in conformity therewith. The judgment so entered 26 shall have the same force and effect as, and shall be 27 subject to all of the provisions of law relating to, a 28 judgment in a civil action, and may be enforced in the 29 same manner as any other judgment of the court in which 30 it is entered. Enforcement of the judgment shall receive court priority.

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33 (f) In order to ensure that judgments are satisfied, the 34 Labor Commissioner may serve upon the judgment 35 debtor, personally or by first-class mail at the last known 36 address of the judgment debtor listed with the division, a form similar to, and requiring the reporting of the same 38 information as, the form approved or adopted by the Judicial Council for purposes of subdivision (b) (a) of Section 117.19 116.830 of the Code of Civil Procedure to **— 11 — AB 2509** 

assist in identifying the nature and location of any assets of the judgment debtor.

The judgment debtor shall complete the form and cause it to be delivered to the division at the address listed on the form within 35 days after the form has been served on the judgment debtor, unless the judgment has been satisfied. In case of willful failure by the judgment debtor to comply with this subdivision, the division or the judgment creditor may request the court to apply the 10 sanctions provided in Section 708.170 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

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(g) Notwithstanding subdivision (d) (e), the Labor 14 Commissioner may stay execution of any judgment 15 entered upon an order, decision, or award which that has 16 become final upon good cause appearing therefore therefor and may impose the terms and conditions of the 18 stay of execution. A certified copy of the stay of execution shall be filed with the clerk entering the judgment.

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> (h) When a judgment is satisfied in fact, otherwise than by execution, the Labor Commissioner may, upon the motion of either party or on its own motion, order entry of satisfaction of judgment. The clerk of the court shall enter a satisfaction of judgment upon the filing of a certified copy of the order.

<del>(h)</del>

(i) The Labor Commissioner shall make 29 reasonable effort to ensure that judgments are satisfied, appropriate including taking all legal action requiring the employer to deposit a bond as provided in Section 240.

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- 34 *(j)* The judgment creditor, or the Labor 35 Commissioner as assignee of the judgment creditor, shall 36 be entitled to court costs and reasonable attorney fees for enforcing the judgment which that is rendered pursuant to this section. 38
- 39 SEC. 4. Section 98.7 of the Labor Code is amended to 40 read:

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98.7. (a) Any person who believes that he or she has been discharged or otherwise discriminated against in violation of any provision of this code under the jurisdiction of the Labor Commissioner may file a 5 complaint with the division within six months after the 6 occurrence of the violation. The six-month period may be extended for good cause. The complaint shall be investigated by a discrimination complaint investigator in accordance with this section. The Labor Commissioner procedures for the investigation of establish 10 shall discrimination complaints. A summary of the procedures shall be provided to each complainant and respondent at 12 13 the time of initial contact. The Labor Commissioner shall 14 inform complainants charging a violation of Section 6310 15 or 6311, at the time of initial contact, of his or her right to 16 file a separate, concurrent complaint with the United States Department of Labor within 30 days after the 17 18 occurrence of the violation.

(b) Each complaint of unlawful discharge 20 discrimination shall be assigned to a discrimination complaint investigator, who shall prepare and submit a 21 22 report to the Labor Commissioner based investigation of the complaint. The Labor Commissioner may designate the chief deputy or assistant Labor Commissioner or the chief counsel to receive and review The investigation shall include, where reports. appropriate, interviews with the complainant, respondent, and any witnesses who may have 29 information concerning the alleged violation, and a 30 review of any documents which that may be relevant to the disposition of the complaint. The identity of witnesses shall remain confidential unless the identification of the 33 witness becomes necessary to proceed with 34 investigation or to prosecute an action to enforce a determination. The investigation report submitted to the 36 Labor Commissioner or designee shall include statements and documents obtained in the investigation, and the findings of the investigator concerning whether a violation occurred. The Labor Commissioner may hold hearing whenever investigative

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Commissioner determines, after review of the investigation report, that a hearing is necessary to fully establish the facts. In the hearing the investigation report shall be made a part of the record and the complainant and respondent shall have the opportunity to present further evidence. The Labor Commissioner shall issue, serve, and enforce any necessary subpoenas.

(c) If the Labor Commissioner determines a violation 8 9 has occurred, he or she shall notify the complainant and 10 respondent and direct the respondent to cease and desist from the violation and take such action as is deemed necessary to remedy the violation, including, 12 13 appropriate, rehiring or reinstatement, reimbursement of lost wages and interest thereon, payment of reasonable 14 attorney's fees associated with any hearing held by the 16 Labor Commissioner in investigating the complaint, and the posting of notices to employees. If the respondent 17 18 does not comply with the order within 10 working days following notification of Labor Commissioner's the determination, the Labor Commissioner shall bring an action promptly in an appropriate court against the 21 respondent. If the Labor Commissioner fails to bring an action in court promptly, the complainant may bring an 24 action against the Labor Commissioner in appropriate court for a writ of mandate to compel the 25 26 Labor Commissioner to bring an action in court against the respondent. If the complainant prevails in his or her action for a writ of mandate, the court shall award the complainant court costs and reasonable attorney's fees, 30 notwithstanding any other provision of law. Regardless of any delay in bringing an action in court, the Labor Commissioner shall not be divested of jurisdiction. In any such the action, the court may permit the claimant to 34 intervene as a party plaintiff to the action and shall have 35 jurisdiction, for cause shown, to restrain the violation and 36 to all appropriate relief. Appropriate includes, but is not limited to, rehiring or reinstatement 37 of the complainant, reimbursement of lost wages 38 interest thereon. and any other compensation or appropriate equitable relief as that is the AB 2509 — 14 —

circumstances of the case. The Labor Commissioner shall petition the court for appropriate temporary relief or *a* restraining order unless he or she determines good cause exists for not doing so.

5 the Labor Commissioner (d) If determines occurred, he or she 6 violation has shall notify the complainant and respondent and shall dismiss complaint. The Labor Commissioner may direct complainant to pay reasonable attorney's fees associated 10 with any hearing held by the Labor Commissioner if the 11 Labor Commissioner finds the complaint was frivolous, 12 unreasonable, groundless, and was brought in bad faith. 13 The complainant may, after notification of the Labor 14 Commissioner's determination to dismiss a complaint, bring an action in an appropriate court, which shall have 15 16 jurisdiction to determine whether a violation occurred, 17 and if so, to restrain the violation and order appropriate relief to remedy the violation. Appropriate relief includes, but is not limited to, rehiring 20 reinstatement of the complainant, reimbursement of lost wages and interest thereon, and such other compensation 21 22 or equitable relief as that is appropriate under the 23 circumstances of the case. When dismissing a complaint, 24 the Labor Commissioner shall advise the complainant of 25 his or her right to bring an action in an appropriate court 26 if he or she disagrees with the determination of the Labor 27 Commissioner, and in the case of an alleged violation of Section 6310 or 6311, to file a complaint against the state program with the United States Department of Labor. 30 The filing of a timely complaint against the state program with the United States Department of Labor shall vacate the Labor Commissioner's dismissal of the person's complaint against the respondent, pending the issuance 34 of findings by the United States Department of Labor. 35 Within 15 days of the receipt of those findings the Labor 36 Commissioner shall notify the parties of the reopening of the investigation of the person's complaint against the 38 respondent, or shall issue a new determination of the complaint pursuant to subdivision (c) or this subdivision.

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1 (e) The Labor Commissioner shall notify complainant and respondent of his or her determination under subdivision (c) or (d), not later than 60 days after the filing of the complaint. Determinations by the Labor 5 Commissioner under subdivision (c) or (d) may be the complainant or respondent to the appealed by 6 Director of Industrial Relations within 10 days following notification of the determination. The appeal shall set forth specifically and in full detail the grounds upon appealing considers 10 which the party the Commissioner's determination to be unjust or unlawful, 12 and every issue to be considered by the director. The 13 director may consider any issue relating to the initial 14 determination and may modify, affirm, or reverse the Commissioner's determination. The director's 15 Labor 16 determination shall be the determination of the Labor 17 Commissioner. The director shall notify the complainant 18 and respondent of his or her determination within 10 days 19 of receipt of the appeal. 20

- (f) The rights and remedies provided by this section 21 do not preclude an employee from pursuing any other rights and remedies under any other provisions provision 23 of law. An employee may file a civil judicial action without 24 exhausting his or her administrative remedies concerning 25 the alleged violation of any of the discrimination the jurisdiction 26 provisions under of the 27 Commissioner, and may seek whatever relief would be 28 available from the Labor Commissioner under this section, in addition to any other relief that may be 30 available under any other provision of law. The limitation 31 period for filing a complaint with the Labor 32 Commissioner under subdivision (a) shall not apply to any civil action filed by an employee under this 34 subdivision.
- 35 SEC. 5. Section 100.6 is added to the Labor Code, to 36 read:
- 37 100.6. (a) As used in this section, "substantial shareholder" and "parent" have the same meanings as in 39 Section 3717.

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(b) In any proceeding under Section 98 in which unpaid wages or penalties are claimed to be owed by a the corporation, Labor Commissioner may substantial shareholders and parents to be joined as 5 parties.

- (c) In any action filed against a corporation for unpaid wages or penalties pursuant to Section 98.3, 218.5, 1193.6, 8 or 1194, substantial shareholders and its parent may be joined as defendants.
- (d) In the event that the Labor Commissioner or the 11 court finds a corporation liable for unpaid wages or penalties, the following persons shall be jointly and severally liable with the corporation: 13
  - (1) The parent of the corporation.
- (2) All substantial shareholders of the corporation or 16 its parent.
- (e) The rights and remedies provided by this section 18 are not exclusive and do not preclude an employee or the 19 Labor Commissioner from pursuing any other rights and 20 remedies against any persons under any other provision of law.
- 22 SEC. 6. Section 100.7 is added to the Labor Code, to 23 read:
- 100.7. A successor to any employer that owes wages to 25 former employees is liable for those wages if any of the following are applicable:
- (a) The successor uses substantially the same facilities 28 or workforce to produce substantially the same products for substantially the same type of customers as the predecessor employer.
- (b) The successor shares the ownership, management, 32 control of labor relations, or interrelations of business operations with the predecessor.
- 34 (c) The successor has in its employ in a managerial 35 capacity any person who directly or indirectly controlled 36 the wages, hours, or working conditions of the affected employees of the predecessor employer. 37
- (d) The successor is an individual who is an immediate 38 family member of any owner, partner, officer, or director

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of the predecessor employer or of any person who had a financial interest in the predecessor employer.

3 SEC. 7. Section 203.1 of the Labor Code is amended 4 to read:

5 203.1. If an employer in the building and construction 6 industry pays an employee in the regular course of employment or in accordance with Sections Section 201 and, 201.5, 201.7, or 202 any wages or fringe benefits, or both, by check, draft or voucher, which check, draft or 10 voucher is subsequently refused payment because the employer or maker has no account with the bank, 12 institution, or person on which the instrument is drawn, 13 or has insufficient funds to his in the account upon which 14 the instrument is drawn at the time of its presentation, so 15 long as the same is presented within 30 days of receipt by 16 the employee of the check, draft or voucher, such those 17 wages or fringe benefits, or both, shall continue as a 18 penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is commenced; but such. 20 However, those wages and fringe benefits shall not 21 continue for more than 30 days, provided, however, that 22 the said and this penalty shall not apply if the employer satisfaction of establish to the the Commissioner or an appropriate court of law that the said violation of this section was unintentional. This penalty is in addition to, and independent and apart from, any other penalty in this article.

28 SEC. 8. Section 218.5 of the Labor Code is amended 29

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218.5. In any action brought for the nonpayment of wages, fringe benefits, or health and welfare or pension fund contributions, the court shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing party if any 34 party to the action requests attorney's fees and costs upon 35 the initiation of the action. This section shall not apply to 36 an action brought by the Labor Commissioner. This section shall not apply to a surety issuing a bond pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 7000) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code or to an action to enforce a mechanics lien brought under Chapter

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(commencing with Section 3109) of Title 15 of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code.

3 This section does not apply to any action for which attorney's fees are recoverable under Section 1194.

5 SEC. 9. Section 218.6 is added to the Labor Code, to 6 read:

218.6. In any action brought for the nonpayment of wages, the court shall award interest on all due and unpaid wages at the rate of interest specified in 10 subdivision (b) of Section 3289 of the Civil Code, which shall accrue from the date that the wages were due and payable as provided in Part 1 (commencing with Section 200) of Division 2.

SEC. 10. Section 226 of the Labor Code is amended to 15 read:

226. (a) Every employer shall, semimonthly, or at the time of each payment of wages, furnish each of his or 17 18 her employees, either as a detachable part of the check, or voucher paying the employee's wages, 20 separately when wages are paid by personal check or 21 cash, an itemized statement in writing showing: (1) gross 22 wages earned; (2) total hours worked by each the 23 employee whose compensation is based on an hourly 24 wage; (3), except for any employee whose compensation 25 is solely based on a salary and who is exempt from 26 payment of overtime under Section 515 or any applicable 27 order of the Industrial Welfare Commission, (3) the 28 number of piece rate units earned and any applicable 29 piece rate if the employee is paid on a piece-rate basis, (4) 30 all deductions;, provided, that all deductions made on written orders of the employee may be aggregated and 32 shown as one item; (4), (5) net wages earned; (5), (6) the inclusive dates of the period for which the employee is 34 paid; (6), (7) the name of the employee and his or her 35 social security number; and (7), (8) the name and 36 address of the legal entity which that is the employer, and (9) all applicable hourly rates in effect during the pay 38 period and the corresponding number of hours worked at each hourly rate by the employee.

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The deductions made from eash payments of wages shall be recorded in ink or other indelible form, properly dated, showing the month, day, and year, and a copy of the statement, or a record of the deductions, shall be kept on file by the employer for at least three years at the place of employment or at a central location within the State of California.

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An employer who that is required by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant to this code to keep the 10 information required by this section shall afford current and former employees the right to inspect or copy the 12 records pertaining to that current or former employee, upon reasonable request to the employer. The employer 14 may take reasonable steps to assure the identity of a 15 current or former employee. If the employer provides 16 copies of the records, the actual cost of reproduction may be charged to the current or former employee.

This section shall does not apply to any employer of any 19 person employed by the owner or occupant of a 20 residential dwelling whose duties are incidental to the maintenance, or 21 ownership. use of the 22 including the care and supervision of children, or whose 23 duties are personal and not in the course of the trade, 24 business, profession, or occupation of the owner or 25 occupant.

- (b) Any employee suffering injury as a result of a 27 knowing and intentional failure by an employer to 28 comply with subdivision (a) shall be entitled to recover the greater of all actual damages or one hundred dollars 30 (\$100) for each pay period in which a violation occurs, 31 not exceeding an aggregate penalty of ten thousand 32 dollars (\$10,000), whichever is greater, plus and shall be entitled to an award of costs and reasonable -attorney 34 attorney's fees. Any aggrieved employee may 35 recovery of the damages or penalty provided for in this 36 section by filing a complaint pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 98 or bringing a civil action.
- 38 (c) This section shall does not apply to the state, or any city, county, city and county, district, or any other governmental entity.

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SEC. 11. Section 226.3 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

3 226.3. Any employer who that violates subdivision (a) of Section 226 shall be subject to a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per employee per violation in an initial citation and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per employee for each violation in a subsequent citation, for which the employer fails to provide the employee a wage deduction statement or fails to keep the 10 records required in subdivision (a) of Section 226. In the 11 event that an employer fails to maintain records that 12 identify each employee to whom wages are paid, the 13 penalties under this section shall be computed by 14 multiplying the number of employees employed on the date the penalty is assessed by the 24 semimonthly pay 16 periods of the immediately preceding 12 months, but the employer may affirmatively establish that the evidence 17 18 supports a lesser penalty based upon proof of a lesser The civil penalties 19 number of affected employees. 20 provided for in this section are in addition to any other 21 penalty provided by law. In enforcing this section, the 22 Labor Commissioner shall take into consideration 23 whether the violation was inadvertent, and, in his or her 24 discretion, may decide not to penalize an employer for a 25 first violation when that violation was due to a clerical error or inadvertent mistake.

- SEC. 12. Section 226.7 is added to the Labor Code, to 28 read:
  - 226.7. (a) No employer shall require any employee to work during any meal or rest period mandated by an applicable order of the Industrial Welfare Commission.
  - (b) An employer that violates this section shall be subject to both of the following:
  - (1) A civil penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) per employee per violation.
  - (2) Payment to the aggrieved employee of an amount equal to twice his or her average hourly rate of compensation for the full length of the meal or rest periods during which the employee was required to perform any work. An employee paid on a piecework

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basis shall be entitled to an amount equal to twice the amount of piecework units earned during those periods, but in no event shall the amount be less than the applicable state minimum wage for the full length of 5 those time periods during which any work 6 performed.

(c) Any employee aggrieved by a violation of this section may do either of the following:

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- (1) Seek recovery of payments under paragraph (2) of 10 subdivision (b) through a complaint filed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 98.
  - (2) Seek recovery of payments under paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) in a civil action. The court shall award a prevailing plaintiff in such an action reasonable attorney's fees.
  - SEC. 13. Section 240 of the Labor Code is amended to read:
- 17 240. (a) If any employer has been convicted of a 18 19 violation of any provision of this article, or if any 20 judgment against an employer for nonpayment of unpaid 21 wages. penalties, or other demands interest. 22 compensation within the jurisdiction of the Labor 23 Commissioner remains unsatisfied for a period of 10 days after the time to appeal therefrom has expired, and no pending, 25 appeal therefrom is then the Labor 26 Commissioner may require the employer to deposit a 27 bond in such a sum as that the Labor Commissioner may 28 deem deems sufficient and adequate in 29 circumstances, to be approved by the Labor 30 Commissioner. The bond shall be payable to the Labor 31 Commissioner and shall be conditioned 32 employer shall, for a definite future period, not exceeding six months, pay the employees in accordance with the 34 provisions of this article, and shall be further conditioned 35 upon the payment by the employer of any unsatisfied 36 judgment which may be recovered against the employer pursuant to the provisions of this article for unpaid wages, penalties, other demands within 38 interest, or39 jurisdiction of the Labor Commissioner.

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(b) If within 10 days after demand for the bond, which demand may be made by mail, the employer fails to deposit the bond, the Labor Commissioner may bring an action in the name and on behalf of the people of the State of California against the employer in a court of competent jurisdiction to compel the employer to furnish the bond or to cease doing business until the employer has done so. The employer has the burden of proving either that the bond is unnecessary or that the amount demanded is 10 excessive. If the court finds that there is just cause for requiring the bond, and that the bond is reasonably 12 necessary or proper to secure prompt payment of the 13 wages of the employees of the employer and any 14 unsatisfied judgment against the employer for unpaid 15 wages, interest, penalties, or other demands within the 16 jurisdiction of the Labor Commissioner or for employer's compliance with the provisions of this article, 17 court may enjoin the employer, whether individual, partnership, corporation, company, trust, or 19 association, and such any other person or persons as that may have been or may be concerned with, or in any way participating participated in, the failure to pay the wages resulting in the conviction or in the judgment, from doing business until the requirement is met, and make other and further orders appropriate to compel compliance 25 with the requirement. 26 27

SEC. 14. Section 245 is added to the Labor Code, to 28 read:

245. Whenever the Labor Commissioner makes an 30 award against an employer pursuant to this chapter, upon finding that the employer has engaged in a pattern and practice of violating wage and hours laws, the Labor 33 Commissioner shall also make an order requiring the 34 employer to post a notice at the place of employment 35 where the affected employees are or were employed 36 containing a description of the nature of the violation, a declaration by the employer stating that it will not engage in those unlawful acts in the future, and the address and telephone number of the Labor Commissioner. notice, on a form approved by the Labor Commissioner,

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shall be posted conspicuously by the employer for a period of not less than 60 days. The notice shall bear the 3 seal of the State of California and of the Labor 4 Commissioner and the signature of the employer or a 5 representative or agent of the employer. The cost of 6 producing and posting the notice shall be paid by the 7 employer. The failure or refusal of an employer to post the notice in accordance with this section shall subject the employer to a civil penalty, to be assessed and collected 10 by the Labor Commissioner, in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each instance in which the 12 employer fails or refuses to post a notice as required by 13 this section, and the employer shall be required to 14 properly post the notice. 15

- SEC. 15. Section 350 of the Labor Code is amended to 16 read:
- 350. As used in this article, unless the context indicates 18 otherwise:

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- (a) "Employer" means every person engaged in any 20 business or enterprise in this State, which state that has 21 one or more persons in service under any appointment, contract of hire, or apprenticeship, express or implied, 23 oral or written, irrespective of whether such the person 24 is the owner of the business or is operating on a 25 concessionaire or other basis.
- (b) "Employee" means every person, including aliens 27 and minors, rendering actual service in any business for an employer, whether gratuitously or for wages or pay and, whether such the wages or pay are measured by the standard of time, piece, task, commission, or other method of calculation, and whether such the service is 32 rendered on a commission, concessionaire, or other basis.
- (c) "Employing" includes hiring, or in 34 contracting for, the services of an employee.
- (d) "Agent" means every person other the 36 employer having the authority to hire or discharge any employee or supervise, direct, or control the acts of employees.
- (e) "Gratuity" includes any tip, gratuity, money, or 39 part thereof, which that has been paid or given to or left

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1 for an employee by a patron of a business over and above 2 the actual amount due such the business for services 3 rendered or for goods, food, drink, or articles sold or 4 served to such the patron. Any amounts paid directly by 5 a patron to a dancer employed by an employer subject to 6 Industrial Welfare Commission Order No. 5 or 10 shall be 7 deemed a gratuity.

- (f) "Business" means any business establishment, or enterprise, regardless of where conducted.
- 10 SEC. 16. Section 351 of the Labor Code is amended to 11 read:
- 351. No employer or agent shall collect, take, or 12 13 receive any gratuity or a part thereof, that is paid, given 14 to, or left for an employee by a patron, or deduct any amount from wages due an employee on account of such 16 a gratuity, or require an employee to credit the amount, or any part thereof, of such a gratuity against and as a part 17 18 of the wages due the employee from the employer. Every such gratuity is hereby declared to be the sole property of the employee or employees to whom it was paid, given, 21 or left for. This section shall not apply to any employment 22 in which no charge is made to a patron for services 23 rendered to the patron by an employee on behalf of his 24 employer if both of the following conditions are met: (a) 25 the employee is receiving a wage or salary not less than 26 the higher of the state or federal minimum wage, regardless of whether such employee is subject to either such minimum wage law, and (b) the employee's wage or salary is guaranteed and paid in full irrespective of the amount of tips received by the employee. An employer that permits patrons to pay gratuities by credit card shall pay the employees the full amount of the gratuity that the 32 patron indicated on the credit card slip, without any 34 deductions for any credit card payment processing fees 35 or costs that may be charged to the employer by the 36 credit card company. Payment of gratuities made by patrons using credit cards shall be made to the employees 38 not later than the next regular payday following the date the patron authorized the credit card payment.

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1 SEC. 17. Section 1174 of the Labor Code is amended 2 to read:

1174. Every person employing labor in this state shall:

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- (a) Furnish to the commission, at its request, reports or information—which that the commission requires to carry out this chapter. The reports and information shall be verified if required by the commission or any member
- (b) Allow any member of the commission or the of 10 employees of the Division Labor Standards Enforcement free access to the place of business or employment of the person to secure any information or make any investigation—which that they are authorized by 14 this chapter to ascertain or make. The commission may inspect or make excerpts, relating to the employment of 16 employees, from the books, reports, contracts, payrolls, documents, or papers of the person.
  - (c) Keep a record showing the names and addresses of all employees employed and the ages of all minors.
- (d) Keep, at a central location in the state or at the plants or establishments which employees at employed, payroll records showing the hours worked daily by, and the wages paid to, and the number of 24 piece-rate units earned by and any applicable piece rate 25 paid to, employees employed at the respective plants or 26 establishments, and which. These records shall be kept in accordance with rules established for this purpose by the commission, but in any case shall be kept on file for not less than two years.
- 30 SEC. 18. Section 1174.5 of the Labor Code is amended 31 to read:
- 1174.5. (a) Any person employing labor who willfully 32 fails to maintain the records required by subdivision (c) of Section 1174 or accurate and complete records 34 35 required by subdivision (d) of Section 1174 or by the 36 applicable wage orders oftheIndustrial Welfare Commission, or to allow any member of the commission or employees of the division to inspect records pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 1174, shall be subject to a civil penalty of five one hundred dollars (\$500) (\$100) per

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employee for each payroll period during which the violation occurs, up to a maximum period of three years.

SEC. 19. Section 1194.2 of the Labor Code is amended 4 to read:

- 1194.2. (a) In any proceeding before the Labor 6 Commissioner, or any action under Section 1193.6 or Section 1194, to recover wages because of the payment of a wage less than the minimum wage fixed by an order of commission, employee shall an be additionally to recover liquidated damages in an amount 10 equal to the wages unlawfully unpaid and interest 12 thereon. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to authorize the recovery of liquidated damages for failure 14 to pay overtime compensation.
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), if the employer the satisfaction 16 demonstrates to of the 17 Commissioner or the court that the act or omission giving 18 rise to the action was in good faith and that the employer 19 had reasonable grounds for believing that the act or 20 omission was not a violation of any provision of the Labor 21 Code relating to minimum wage, or an order of the 22 commission, the Labor Commissioner or the court may, 23 in its the discretion of the Labor Commissioner or the 24 court as the case may be, refuse to award liquidated damages or award any amount of liquidated damages not exceeding the amount specified in subdivision (a).
  - (c) This section only shall apply applies to civil actions commenced on or after January 1, 1992.
- SEC. 20. Section 1197.1 of the Labor Code is amended 30 to read:
- 1197.1. (a) Any employer or other person, acting 32 either individually or as an officer, agent, or employee of another person, who pays or causes to be paid to any 34 employee a wage less than the minimum fixed by an order of the commission shall be subject to a civil penalty 36 *and restitution* as follows:
- violation is (1) For any initial that intentionally 38 committed, fifty dollars for each (\$50) underpaid employee for each pay period for which the employee is underpaid, in addition to an amount sufficient to recover,

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on behalf of the affected employees, all underpaid wages, any owed interest thereon, and statutory liquidated damages.

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- (2) For each subsequent violation for the same specific 5 offense, two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each underpaid employee for each pay period for which the employee is underpaid, regardless of whether the initial violation is intentionally committed, in addition to an amount sufficient to recover, on behalf of the affected 10 employees, all underpaid wages, any interest owed thereon, and statutory liquidated damages.
- (b) If, upon inspection or investigation, the Labor 13 Commissioner determines that a person has paid or 14 caused to be paid a wage less than the minimum, the 15 Labor Commissioner may issue a citation to the person in 16 violation. The citation may be served personally or by registered mail in accordance with subdivision (c) of 18 Section 11505 of the Government Code. Each citation shall be in writing and shall describe the nature of the 20 violation, including reference to the statutory provision alleged to have been violated. The Labor Commissioner promptly shall take all appropriate action, in accordance 23 with this section, to enforce the citation and to recover 24 the civil penalty and restitution assessed in connection with the citation.
- (c) If a person desires to contest a citation or the 27 proposed assessment of a civil penalty or restitution 28 therefor, the person shall, within 15 business days after service of the citation, notify the office of the Labor 30 Commissioner that appears on the citation of his or her for an informal hearing. The 32 Commissioner or his or her deputy or agent shall, within 30 days, hold a hearing at the conclusion of which the 34 citation or proposed assessment of a civil penalty and restitution shall be affirmed, modified, or dismissed.

The decision of the Labor Commissioner shall consist of 37 a notice of findings, findings, and an order, all of which shall be served on all parties to the hearing within 15 days after the hearing by regular first-class mail at the last known address of the party on file with the Labor AB 2509 **— 28 —** 

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Commissioner. Service shall be completed pursuant to Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure. Any amount 3 found due by the Labor Commissioner as a result of a 4 hearing shall become due and payable 45 days after notice 5 of the findings and written findings and order have been 6 mailed to the party assessed. A writ of mandate may be taken from this finding to the appropriate superior court. The party shall pay any judgment and costs ultimately rendered by the court against the party for the 10 assessment. The writ shall be taken within 45 days of service of the notice of findings, findings, and order 12 thereon.

- (d) A person to whom a citation has been issued shall 14 may, in lieu of contesting a citation pursuant to this section, transmit to the office of the Labor Commissioner 16 designated on the citation the amount of the civil penalty and restitution specified for the violation within 15 business days after issuance of the citation.
- (e) When no petition objecting to a citation or the 20 proposed assessment of a civil penalty and restitution is 21 filed, a certified copy of the citation or proposed civil 22 penalty and restitution may be filed by the Labor 23 Commissioner in the office of the clerk of the superior 24 court in any county in which the person assessed has or 25 had a place of business. The clerk, immediately upon the 26 filing, shall enter judgment for the state against the person assessed in the amount shown on the citation or proposed assessment of a civil penalty and restitution.
- (f) When findings and the order thereon are made 30 affirming or modifying a citation or proposed assessment of a civil penalty and restitution after hearing, a certified copy of these findings and the order entered thereon may be entered by the Labor Commissioner in the office of the 34 clerk of the superior court in any county in which the person assessed has property or in which the person 36 assessed has or had a place of business. The clerk, immediately upon the filing, shall enter judgment for the state against the person assessed in the amount shown on the certified order.

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1 (g) A judgment entered pursuant to this section shall 2 bear the same rate of interest and shall have the same 3 effect as other judgments and be given the same 4 preference allowed by the law on other judgments 5 rendered for claims for taxes. The clerk shall make no 6 charge for the service provided by this section to be 7 performed by him or her.

(h) The civil penalties *and restitution* provided for in this section are in addition to any other penalty *or remedy* provided by law.

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- 11 (i) This section shall not apply to any order of the 12 commission relating to household occupations.
- SEC. 21. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.